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7.—*Journal of a Commercial Trip from Tientsin through the provinces of Shansi and Pechili.* By MESSRS. RICHARDS and SLOSSIN.\*

24th Nov. 1860.—Started this morning early before breakfast, as we had a long journey to perform. We still continued in the beautiful valley of Tientsin for some distance, till we came to a small walled town totally in ruins; here we commenced to ascend a mountain 2000 feet above Pekin, and proceeded along its top for some distance, till we came to a small town, where we watered our mules. The well here was 120 fathoms in depth.

From this we descended into a fine valley of some extent, and at 12 noon arrived at a small village named Ee-To-Chen, where we prepared a hasty breakfast. A short distance from here was a walled city, named Wha-Lee-Hien, where we were surprised to find the main street completely blocked up with people and, all along the street-sides, wares and goods of all descriptions displayed for sale; it was evidently a market-day.

We passed several small towns and villages, generally situated on rivers; and, after crossing a small river, continued on until sunset, when we arrived at a large town named Lu-Chu. In this district the roads were fine.

25th.—The weather this morning was intensely cold. The road still continued in this fine valley, which is very thickly inhabited; we passed small walled towns at short intervals, six of which were at one time counted within sight. We met a constant stream of carts and asses laden with coal, in which there must be an immense traffic.

At 12 p.m. stopped at a small town, where we had breakfast. We saw numerous joss-houses, all beautifully situated; every farm-house and village was neatly walled in, and had fine brick gates. The people of this valley, which is named Yu-chu, have every appearance of being in good circumstances; there are no poor nor beggars. The valley lies between ranges of mountains—the left range is very lofty, and covered with snow; that on the right is not so high, and gradually runs down into the valley. All over the country are numerous groves of trees, which generally enclose either a joss-house or a burial-place.

At 3 p.m. arrived at the city of Yu-chu, which is on the borders of the province of Shansi. Its walls can be seen at a great distance. The principal staples of trade of this city are coal and cotton: the cotton is grown in the valley; the coal-mines are about 5 li distant, of great extent, and of very superior quality.

Before entering Yu-chu we passed a handsome gate, and crossed a fine granite bridge, built over the moat which surrounds the city. There are four other large gates; the principal streets of the town are broad, and at short distances apart are handsome granite arches, which give to the street the appearance of an avenue of arches. Towers are built within the city, to about the same height as the walls, on which are erected fine buildings of three stories in height, and there are handsome steps to ascend them.

26th.—Received a visit from a young mandarin, the son of the chief magistrate, accompanied by his secretary and three more officials. They came to inquire whether we were going to stay long; and, if we were, the magistrate would give us rooms in his yamun, as he knew that our apartments were very small. Thanking them for their kindness, we informed them that we would start early in the afternoon.

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\* It has not been found possible to identify more than a few of the places mentioned in this Paper. The authors' own spelling has, therefore, been maintained in every instance.—ED.

The coal-mines here are very extensive, and the coal bears a famed name throughout the country; it very much resembles the Cannel coal—not being dirty like the bituminous,—and when lighted it will burn for a long time, leaving nothing but fine white ashes, which are in great demand for manure. We were informed that, on account of there being no river communication, it would cost 5000 cash per picul to deliver it at Tientsin; here the price is 150 cash per picul. It is in universal use, and is even transported as far as Mongolia, and is the main support of the city and valley of Yu-chu.

As our chart only gave the outlines of the province of Shansi, we inquired of the mandarin to give us some information we desired: and at 3 p.m. commenced retracing our steps to get upon the high road to Shansi. At 6 p.m. arrived at Koo-Yea-Thua, where we stopped for the night, and had miserable accommodation.

27th.—After a most uncomfortable night's rest we rose early, and went on. At 1 p.m. arrived at Tuo-Sheo, where we had breakfast, and after a long ride arrived at Ta-Too-Koo, situated on the high road to Shansi; here we had a comfortable room in a joss-house, there being no suitable inn at the place. The people are very civil and quiet.

28th.—It is a cold, frosty morning, with a high wind. The country is not so rich in this valley, and the land is poor; the roads are very rough, and fit only for a Chinese cart. Passed many walled towns, most of them in ruins; and at 1 p.m. arrived at Pa-Ma-Fa, where we had breakfast, and again went on. It was bitterly cold, and the roads continued miserable, making it very uncomfortable. At 5 p.m. arrived at a large city named Si-Ning-Si, where we found a good inn, and stopped for the night. We were informed that we were the first foreigners that ever entered the city.

The streets of the city are very broad, and somewhat cleaner than we have lately seen; they run at right angles, and have many ornamental arched gateways across them. This is the last city on the borders of the province of Pechili; it is situated on the high road leading into Shansi, and we here begin to see some improvement in land and country.

The valley in which it lies is of great extent: on the right side the mountains almost wholly disappear, and on the left, at a great distance, we can see an extensive range of blue mountains running westward. Scattered over the face of the country are many patches of fine trees and extensive and handsome joss-houses; besides, here and there, are Mahometan burial-places.

[29th].—The day was a very pleasant one, but so hazy that the mountains on each side of us were scarcely visible. The roads are better than yesterday, and we went along nicely. About 12 noon we crossed a small river, which is the boundary-line between the province of Pechili and Shansi. A short distance from here we passed through a small walled city named the Heavenly City, and here there is a large country trade carried on. About 2 p.m. a strong west wind arose, which made it very dusty and cold, and the road was poor and shingly.

Our mules were very much exhausted when, at sunset, we arrived at a small walled city named Chu-Po, having had no water since we left in the morning; and we were ourselves somewhat tired and faint, having had nothing to eat since 7 a.m.

30th.—Left this morning at daylight; the weather clear but excessively cold, and the roads poor and indifferent. At 1 p.m. arrived at Pea-Tea-San, a small walled town of little importance. We here took breakfast; and, after a disagreeable ride, at 4 p.m. arrived at the city of Tai-Tong-Fu, which is quite an important place.

The first part of the day's journey was continually on the ascent for about 40 li, until nearly on a level with the mountains on our right; after which we descended into the valley in which this city is situated. We passed great numbers of carts all laden with coal, drawn by motley teams; composed

generally of a mule or steer, two donkeys and a horse: they carried from three to four tons of coal, all in large lumps.

When walking through the streets we were continually surrounded by numbers of people; they never offered us any abuse, nor annoyed us by shouting, but were very civil. We were credibly informed that the walls of the city were 34 li in circumference, and that its population was very great, something over 800,000 souls. The principal streets are wide, and the shops and houses very fine, some of the latter being singularly handsome. The guard-houses over the gates of the city were three stories in height; but they have been much neglected, and are now rapidly falling to pieces. The wall in some places is in good condition, but in many others shows symptoms of decay.

We received a number of visits from Chinese merchants, and also a letter written in Latin from a Chinese Catholic priest offering his services, for which we called upon him and returned thanks. Our business being finished about 1 P.M., we started; and from the time of leaving our hotel to the gates of the city, a distance of more than two miles, the streets through which we passed were so jammed with people who had collected to have a look at us, that nothing was to be seen but a sea of heads.

The day was clear but excessively cold, and after a long ride we arrived at a small town named Su-nu-tsong, where we stopped for the night.

*2nd Dec.*—Before daylight resumed our journey, the weather fine, but still excessively cold. At 9 A.M. arrived at Way-zen-see, where we had breakfast; and after a long ride arrived at Wau-yah-lea, where we stopped for the night.

During the day we passed many villages, and saw many flocks of sheep and herds of cattle on the fields; nearly every person we met was armed, and at short distances we passed guard-houses, there being many robbers on this road. There had been a convoy of three carts, carrying specie, with us for the last two days; and they seemed desirous, although armed, of staying in our company, but we travelled too fast for them—they have just arrived at the hotel two hours after us.

*3rd.*—This morning before sunrise we started. After proceeding on some distance we passed through a large town named Tai-yau; here there appeared to be quite a large trade carried on, some of the houses and shops being very fine. We passed a broad river completely frozen up; its course was easterly.

Had breakfast at a wayside inn; and just after sunset arrived at the village of Qun-woo, which is situated at the foot of the mountains, over which the Great Wall is built, and at the entrance of a pass. There are some very fine fortifications here, and the wall has well-built double bastions, but we saw symptoms of decay everywhere, and in many places the wall had nearly tumbled down.

There is an immense amount of traffic on this road; during the day we passed thousands of donkeys and carts laden with coal and iron, besides numerous flocks of camels, in one of which we counted 527; we must have passed on the whole more than 1500. We also met many travellers in chairs, and the road was thronged with pedestrians; the inns are numerous, and some of them very good. There is a great deal of competition on this road, and we often met runners at a distance of 5 li from the inns, soliciting custom.

The roads all through the valley are very inferior: sometimes they cover a space of over 200 yards in breadth, and are nearly impassable, being terribly cut up. In the summer time the farmers prevent the carts from encroaching on their grounds, by digging deep dykes along the roadside. Our course for the last three days has been about south-west.

*4th.*—Before sunrise proceeded on; the day was clear but cold. A short distance from the hotel we passed the wall, which had been completely washed away for about 100 feet; nothing remained to show where the gate had been

but a part of an arch which could scarcely be distinguished. A fence was built across the gap, and we passed through a common gate.

The road led along the bed of a mountain-stream, which we crossed repeatedly during the day, and, as its water was frozen, the passage was difficult and slippery for our mules. The mountains on each side rose to a great height; on the summit of the highest of them were brick towers, varying from 100 to 200 feet in breadth.

For about two hours after leaving we were continually on the ascent, which in many cases was very steep, till we arrived at a small village on the top of a mountain, named Yea-Min-Quay. Here we passed through three gates, which are in a very ruinous condition. After passing the last gate the road descended so precipitously that our cartmen had to block the wheels or they could not have got down in safety; alongside the gate is a beautiful joss-house in good repair.

From here to the place where we had our breakfast, named Nan-Yen-Sawe, we were continually on the descent, and over a most wretched road, cut up and full of rocks. This place is situated at the end of the pass, which is 40 li in length. During our ride through, we met and passed carts and donkeys, generally laden with coal and iron, and nearly a continual stream of camels, more in numbers than we have seen on any preceding day.

We soon got out of the mountains into the valley, which is apparently of great extent; for, as far as the eye can reach towards the south-west, there is nothing to be seen but a level plain.

Directly south of us, about 80 li distant, is a large range of mountains; at a short distance from the foot of which is situated a walled city, named Tung-Chaw. Just before sunset we arrived at a stopping-place named Yun-Mun-Poo.

It had been our intention to stop here for the night; but, finding no decent accommodation, we proceeded on some distance and arrived at a hotel situated in the suburbs of a large city named Pein-Tien-Poo. The people here were curious but civil.

5th.—At 5 A.M. left our hotel, and fell in with a continuous stream of carts, donkeys, and camels, who travel all hours of the night; each cart having attached to it a lantern, which gives a beautiful effect when the train is seen winding along a road. The walls of the city are in good repair; and this is the first place in which we have seen them built with round towers; they are about 100 feet apart, are elevated 10 feet above the walls, and project about two-thirds of their thickness outside them. Usually the towers are square, here they are circular.

At daylight passed a walled city named Wang-Long-Poo. There is every indication of its being a very busy place. The streets are wide and clean, and ornamented with arches; the shops and houses are neat, some of them are large and extensive, and everything indicates great prosperity.

About 9 A.M. passed through another walled city, named Qua-shi-hien, beautifully situated on the summit of a hill, surrounded by a deep valley. This is crossed as you enter and leave the city by five granite bridges, which stand about 40 feet above the bottom of the valley.

At 10 A.M. arrived at a large village, named Nan-yu-see, where we had breakfast, and in the afternoon passed a large walled city, with extensive suburbs, named Yun-pin-sien. The shops and houses presented a neat appearance, being clean and handsomely painted. The streets were crowded with men, and filled with all kinds of produce; everywhere we turned we saw signs of prosperity.

About 4 P.M. passed a walled city, named Pin-dee-sien-e (Commercial City), which was built with bricks, and was evidently an opulent place, being the abode of many retired rich men.

At sunset arrived at Schien-kau, where we put up for the night, being much fatigued, having made four capital days' work.

All through the valley the soil is very rich, the villages numerous and well built with brick, and generally situated in beautiful groves of trees; and the inhabitants are generally well dressed. There was every indication of prosperity, and we seldom saw a beggar.

6th.—At daylight this morning passed a walled city, named Kin-san-poo, *i. e.*, Golden City, which does not deserve its name, as the houses and shops are poor and mean; there is no trade, and its inhabitants are merely supported by the travellers who make it a resting-place. Its walls are nearly totally destroyed.

At 9 A.M. passed another walled city, named Pan-Shi, somewhat in better condition than the latter one, but of little importance; it is likewise supported by the travelling community, nearly every house in the place being a hotel.

At 10 and 11 A.M. passed two small cities, named Urh-Shih-Li-Poo, *i. e.* Twenty-Li City, and Shih-Li-Poo, *i. e.*, Ten-Li City; both places of little importance. Shortly after leaving the latter place we sighted the extensive walls and high towers of a large city in the distance; and at 12 A.M. entered the city of Hin-chow, before which we passed four handsome gates. The main streets are paved with granite, and lined with handsome shops and houses, and crowded with all kinds of produce and merchandise. The city is situated partly on a hill; and in the suburbs are many fine residences, evidently the houses of men of wealth.

A short time afterwards, passed through a large place named Ma-Qua-Chun; soon after leaving it we entered a pass, the sides of which were about 90 feet in height. The road was much cut up, and full of large shingles, and its width rarely sufficient for one car to pass at a time; we were often detained a long time, to allow great trains of carts to pass. We passed villages, to each of which there were gates; and in all we passed eight gates. Many of the houses were built out of the ground, like those in Mongolia.

At 6 P.M. arrived at Sang-Wong-Tien, and took up our quarters just outside the gate, in a good hotel.

7th.—This morning before daybreak it was severely cold, but at noon it moderated and became quite pleasant. We passed during the day several walled towns, namely, Teh-Yu-Pe-Thin, Quaw-To-Soon, Chang-Tong-Chen, and several others, about six in number, of which we did not take the names. All these towns are doing a fair trade, owing to the great traffic on this road. This is especially the case with Chang-Tong-Chen, which is situated partly on a hill; and where are the residences of many retired men of wealth from the capital, Tai-yuen-Foo. The place is divided by walls, to each of which are gates; and during the day we passed more than four gates.

After leaving this place we entered into many ravines or passes; and spent the greater part of the day in going through them.

We did not see the city of Tai-yuen-Foo, the capital of Shansi, till we were nearly upon it, on account of its being situated in a valley; before we entered it, on our right hand, stood a fine pagoda, ten stories in height, neatly painted. The walls are of the usual height and in good repair, and the towers over the gates are of the same height as those at Pekin, having four stories. We were credibly informed that the city was 36 li in circumference, and that its population was immense—over one million of inhabitants. The suburbs are very extensive. We had just entered the city, and passed through the second gate, when we were stopped by the guard, who asked who we were, and requested our passports. We informed them that we would show them to the proper authorities when we arrived at our hotel. The streets of the city are quite broad, the shops numerous and fine; it is a great manufacturing place of iron and furniture-ware of all kinds and

descriptions. The streets were crowded with people, and along the side-walks were many beautiful joss-houses, one of which especially struck our attention, being beautifully ornamented with gilt and carved work.

After we had been some time in bed that night, we were awakened by a noise at the door, which, on opening, we found to proceed from the yard, full of the chief magistrate's retinue. We asked what they wanted, and they said that the Quam-foo had come to see our passports. We said that we were undressed, and requested him to come in, and he should see them. The messenger soon returned, and said he would not come in; when we told him that, as we did not wish to give our passport but to a man of authority, he should send in his secretary. Then they sent in a man whom we saw from his appearance was not his secretary—but either a chair-bearer or coolie,—so of course we refused to give them up.

Finding that nobody else came, and hearing that the magistrate had gone into an adjoining room, we dressed ourselves and went in, and found him sitting in great state, evidently expecting us to kow-tow to him. We bowed, gave him our passports, which he looked at hastily, took down our names and the date, and was folding them up to return, saying that was sufficient, when we told him that if he wished to take a copy of them he could do so at his leisure, but that they must be returned on the following day. He took them and then bowed, showing that he would require us no more.

8th.—To-day stopped in the city to recruit ourselves and to gain information. During the morning we were visited by many influential merchants, from whom we gained much valuable commercial information.

9th.—At daylight we left our hotel.

The country is very bare, and we passed a number of small towns. All along the roadside, and over the country, are numberless wells used for the purposes of irrigation.

At noon arrived at a walled town, named Men-Ta-Hein, where we cooked our breakfast.

The face of the country presents a singular appearance, being cut up into numberless ravines, some of which are of great depth, 200 feet or more, and every spot of ground is under cultivation, being terraced off. These commence at the bottom of the ravine, and rise one above the other to the top; and present a very neat appearance, being neatly banked up with earth.

At 7 P.M. arrived at Tan-Ah-Yee, a distance of 120 li. The houses of the town are well built of stones and bricks, with flat roofs—the roof of the lower house making a floor for the house built above.

Here is a considerable trade in the manufacture of agricultural implements.

A short distance from our hotel, on the righthand side of the valley, we noticed a pagoda four stories in height, situated on a hill; alongside of which was a fine joss-house, nearly buried in evergreens.

We now commenced to ascend till we arrived at the summit of the mountain, on which we continued some distance; even here every available spot of land was under cultivation and neatly terraced off. After descending into a small valley, passing a large town in which there were many fine hotels, and crossing a river, we again ascended another range of mountains; over which we continued some 40 li, till we descended into a very large and populous valley, in which there are many fine villages. Shortly afterwards we sighted quite a large city, named Ching-Ping: its walls are about 60 feet high, and are far superior and in better condition than any we had yet passed. We entered at the west gate, which is a very handsome one, and evidently great care is taken of it. The bastion is built in the shape of a half-moon. The city proper is not large, but the suburbs are very extensive, and the principal part of the business is carried on here. The streets are broad, and filled with people and merchandize; the inhabitants expressed no great curiosity, simply turning around to look at us.

Just before leaving the city we passed the *yamun*, which is really an ornament to the place, and the handsomest that we have yet seen.

It was our intention to take breakfast here; but finding no suitable hotel we proceeded on until, at noon, we arrived at a walled town, named *T'oo-che-lean*.

From here the roads commenced to grow worse, being covered with rocks, and we were often detained by carts. After sunset we arrived at a town named *Tsha-tsha*, where we stopped for the night.

11th.—At daylight, when we left our hotel, the weather was delightful; but the road, which still continued in the bed of a mountain-stream, was full of large shingles.

At 11 A.M. arrived at a large town, named *E-chin*, where we had breakfast. A short distance from here we commenced to ascend a range of mountains, over 2000 feet in height. The road had formerly been paved with large granite blocks; but now it is nearly destroyed by weather and heavy rains, and, being very steep, it was with great difficulty that our carts were enabled to surmount it. The pass is named *Nan-lean-mun*; and on the summit of the mountain we passed through two handsome gates situated about 100 feet apart, over which are built extensive joss-houses.

This mountain is composed almost entirely of coal, and the Chinese are working pits; they also gather it with ease from the surface.

From here we had a magnificent view of the surrounding country, as we were at a greater elevation than the neighbouring mountains.

We then descended into a valley in which there is situated a large walled city named *Ping-sing-chow*, through which we passed. The main street was crowded with men and produce, and was over three miles in length; and at every 50 feet or so were erected handsome granite arches, which being neatly carved presented a beautiful appearance.

During the day we passed great numbers of camels, carts and mules, laden with raw cotton, Manchester goods packed in small bales, opium, sugar, &c. The camels travel generally all night through the passes, as the roads then are free from carts and other obstructions.

We passed through many villages, whose names we did not take down. The houses were built of cut granite; and the people seemed to spare no pains in their buildings, which are unusually large and commodious.

12th.—At daylight left our *khan* and proceeded on. The road was a most fearful one, being nothing but a mere mass of rocks; and at one place one of the carts was upset, and it was with great difficulty our mules could pull through.

Passed many fine villages neatly built of granite, and at noon arrived at *Way-Seu-Chen*, where we had a meal, 10 li from here. At 1 P.M. we came to the gates of the pass named *Tong-T'iea-Mun*. Here again we crossed the Great Wall for the last time, and from the province of *Shansi* entered that of *Pechili*, the wall at this place separating the provinces. We had travelled in *Shansi* to within one day's journey of the province of *Ho-nan*, and would have visited it but for want of time.

Shortly after passing the gates we ascended another range of mountains, on the summit of which we passed through two fine gates. The road was paved, but as usual in a most wretched condition, being mostly worn away. We then descended by a fearfully steep road, worse by far than any we had previously passed over, till we arrived at a small walled town, named *Tsing-Kung*, where we stopped for the night.

13th.—A short distance from our hotel this morning we passed a large town, named *Na-Qua*, and then descended into a valley and crossed the head of the river *Hen-To-Ho*; passed through a large walled city, named *King-Chung*, on the right-hand side of which stands a handsome pagoda seven stories in height. Formerly there had been a fine granite bridge spanning the river here; but



now two-thirds of it have been washed away, only six arches remaining. There are a few ferry-boats here; but they are not in use, the river being very shallow and rapid. Saw here for the first time watermills used for grinding grain, &c. There are also numerous lime-kilns along the valley, some of which we visited, and on inquiry found the lime to be 100 cash per picul.

Passed through two large walled towns, the inn-yards of which were full of camels; and we met many strings of them, all laden with cotton, sugar, opium, &c.

At 12 A.M. arrived at E-Seu, where we had a meal. From here we crossed a high mountain, on whose summit were two fine joss-houses and gates; then we made a precipitous descent into a valley, along which we continued till, after passing two remarkable-looking hills, we entered the extensive city of Wey-Lu-Hien: the walls are handsomely built of granite, save the battlements, which are brick and all in good condition.

We passed by the west gate, through an extensive grain-market, and entered the suburbs leading along the city wall. Here there is a great trade carried on, many fine shops and large warehouses filled with raw cotton, nankin, iron, sugar, opium, &c., and also many fine woollens. This city is a great central depot for all goods of foreign importation, before crossing the mountain and entering the province of Shansi.

We had intended to stop here for the night, as the sun was just setting; but soon being surrounded by an immense crowd who became very annoying, we proceeded on, and at 9 P.M. arrived at Chaw-Chu-Poo, where we had most miserable accommodations. Shortly after leaving Wey-Lu-Hien we entered on to the vast plain of Pechili; and here ended our mountain-travel, which commenced on the 9th of November, and had been most of the time at an elevation of over 2000 feet above Pekin.

14th.—Started this morning at daylight, and soon sighted the river which we had previously crossed; it empties itself into a lake named Ta-Ten-Tse. Passed many fine villages, and saw that the yards of the principal inns were crowded with carts laden with goods of all descriptions bound over the mountains into Shansi. At a great distance over the plain we could just see the towers of some large city and a continuous stream of carts laden with cotton, &c., bound for Shansi.

At 6 A.M. arrived inside the walls of the city of Ching-ting-Foo, and were surprised at the dullness of the place, as contrasted with the great amount of traffic we had seen outside. We were informed that the walls of the city were 100 li in circumference; but not more than one quarter of the space inclosed is inhabited, the rest being mere field, in which one can at any time find hares and pheasants: we bought one of the latter; it was a splendid bird, and we were told it was shot in the city. Great quantities of cotton are grown in this neighbourhood.

Passed through a large town named Foo-Chin-Che, where we saw a beautiful black bear performing for the amusement of a crowd of Chinese.

At 7 P.M. arrived at a walled city named Shin-Loo-Hien, a place of little importance, being a mere travellers' resort.

Throughout the day the road was lined with carts, all laden with goods. Everybody goes armed in some way or other—whether with spears, swords, bows, or matchlock-guns; we met many recruits going to Pau-ting-Foo, called thither, as they informed us, by the Viceroy of the province, who resides there. We passed a number of small villages and one walled town, named Men-Zen-Lien. At 11 A.M. arrived at the walled city of King-Chu, inside of which there is a very lofty and handsome pagoda of 12 stories in height, which we saw at a great distance. The walls of the city are of great circumference, but nearly in total ruins; the trade here is a mere country one. Here we had a meal, and after a short rest went on, passing many small villages and a large walled city named Shin-Loo-Hien. At 5 P.M. arrived

at Way-Lu, a large walled city, in the suburbs of which we took up our quarters for the night.

During the day we passed great quantities of marble in the shape of doorsteps, watertroughs, &c. It can be obtained a short distance from here.

16th.—The weather this morning was clear but piercingly cold when we left our hotel; we walked through the city, which is an unimportant one and doing a mere country trade.

At 9 A.M. passed through a walled town, named Fang-Luen-Chuw, where we had breakfast. Shortly afterwards passed King-Hien-Tien; here there is quite a trade: the main street through which we passed was thronged with people; it was evidently a market day, as there was a great quantity of cotton and other produce exposed for sale.

At 1 P.M. we sighted the walls of the capital of Pechili, Pau-ting-Foo, and proceeded to the north-west gate, where we stopped at a comfortable inn.

Before arriving here, we crossed two large stone bridges, the last of which spans a reservoir of water elevated some 8 feet above the moat which surrounds the city. About 100 feet from the city walls there is an embankment of earth, six feet high and pierced with loopholes for matchlocks or jingalls.

Shortly afterwards we entered the city. The streets are narrow, but the shops and houses are very fine, and some of them beautifully ornamented with gilt and carved work.

17th.—Left before daylight; the weather was bitter cold, and it was with great difficulty that we could keep ourselves warm in our carts. The road at first led along the city walls, and the scenery was very tame. We passed many villages all surrounded by trees, and at 11 A.M. entered a large place named Pang-Hean, where we had breakfast. There was a fair held here; and the streets were crowded with country people, who had different wares displayed for sale, besides cotton and grain.

At 1 P.M. passed a large walled city, named Ka-Yeng-Chen, a place of some importance.

At 6 P.M. arrived at quite a busy city, named Jen-Choey-Sun, where we stopped for the night.

18th.—Long before daylight we left our hotel. The road led through the city, which is a very extensive one and is situated in the high road from Peking to Shansi, Ho-nan and the other provinces. The weather was intensely cold, everything being frozen up; the roads good, but the scenery tame and uninteresting.

At 10 A.M. stopped at a small town named Chang-chen-ho to get our breakfast; there was a fair held here also, and the principal staples exposed for sale were cotton and grain. At sunset arrived at a walled city, named Tai-hien, where we stopped for the night. The walls of the city have nearly disappeared; the houses are mean and poor, and the trade carried on is merely local.

19th.—Having 175 li to do before we could complete our journey, we determined to do it all in one day, and at 3 A.M. were on the road.

At 9 A.M. crossed the Grand Canal on the ice, and at 10 stopped at Tshian-ghai for breakfast. This city was once of some importance, but now is almost in ruins, caused by the Nankin rebels, in 1854, who nearly destroyed it; and traces of their work can still be seen, many of the houses being unbuilt.

A short time afterwards passed another walled city, also mostly destroyed.

About 3 P.M. we sighted, in the distance, the walls of T'ien-tsin; and, after passing the walls built to protect the place from the rebels and English, at 4 P.M. arrived at our place of destination and home. We thus completed a journey of forty-six days; during which we crossed the Great Wall four times in four different places, visited above 100 cities, and traversed a distance of over 4700 li (Chinese miles), or 2566 English miles.

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